Service Date: March 28, 1983

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

\* \* \* \* \*

IN THE MATTER of the Application of ) the CONSUMER GAS COMPANY for ) Authority to Increase its Natural ) Gas Rates.

DTILITY DIVISION
DOCKET NOS. 81.3.31
81.9.79
DEFAULT ORDER NO. 4778d

- 83-12

\* \* \* \* \*

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The Consumers Gas Company filed petitions with the Montana Public Service Commission requesting that the Commission, pursuant to jurisdiction granted by Sections 69-3-101 et seq., MCA, authorize it to increase its natural gas rates to offset the increased cost of gas purchased from the Montana Power Company.
  - 2. The applications were approved on a interim basis.
- 3. A notice of opportunity for public hearing was served February 14, 1983, with requests for hearing to be received on or before March 15, 1983. No requests were received.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The Commission has jurisdiciton over the rates and tariffs of the applicant.
  - 2. Rates approved herein are found to be just and reasonable.

## ORDER

- 1. The increased cost of gas to the applicant represent a legitimate operating expense.
- 2. Rates approved on an interim basis are hereby made permanent.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION by a vote of 5-0 at a meeting of the Public Service Commission held March 28 , 1983.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Chairman

JOHN B. DRISCOLL, Commissioner

HOWARD L. ELLIS, Commissioner

CLYDE JARVIS, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Madeline L. Cettrice

Madeline L. Cottrill Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE:

Any interested party may request the Commission to reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See 38.2.4806, ARM.